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APRIL BULLETIN — "THE SUGGESTER"

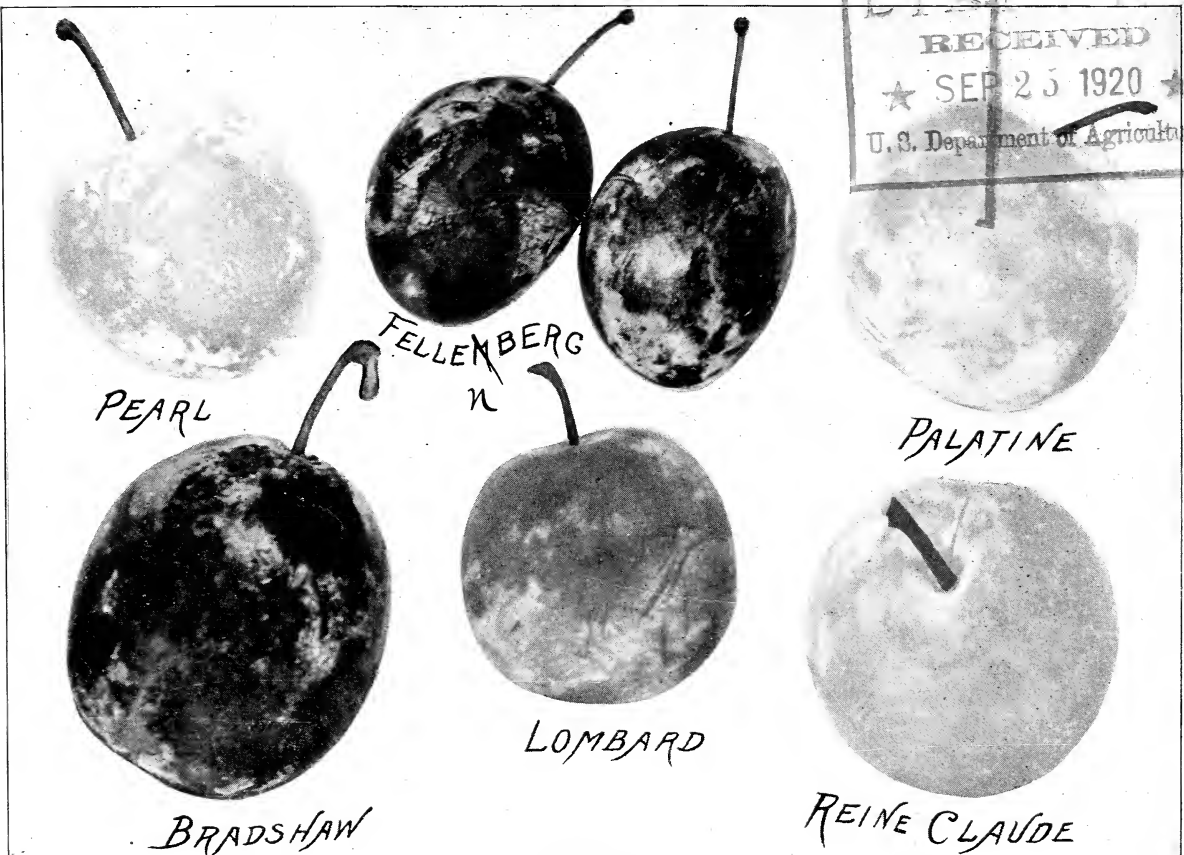
THE VAN DUSEN NURSERIES

W. L. McKAY, Proprietor - - - - GENEVA, N. Y.

This Bulletin is the last of the series of four issued this winter and spring in place of an entirely new edition of our General Catalogue.

There are mighty few of us who always do today the things that can be put off till tomorrow—we certainly do not—and it is for the benefit of these many who have not decided what to order for this spring's planting, that we are sending out this last Bulletin which we have called THE SUGGESTER, hoping that some of our suggestions may be a real aid in helping to decide what kinds of fruits or ornamentals are wanted.

In bringing the season to a close, I wish to thank all the friends who have favored me with their patronage, especially many whose business has come to me for several seasons in succession and whose



THE ABOVE SIX VARIETIES CONSTITUTE OUR PEARL PLUM COLLECTION LISTED BELOW

continued patronage encourages me to believe that our work has been successful. I trust in case there is cause for dissatisfaction arising from any of this spring's shipments that I may be informed of it, and I shall be glad to make right all reasonable complaints.

After you receive this Bulletin there will still be three or four weeks of the very best part of the season for receiving and planting nursery stock. Even if the season seems to you too far advanced remember that our stock is in cool, underground cellars, well supplied with water, and will keep in fine condition till nearly or quite through the month of May. We can usually ship at this time of the year on a day or two notice.

W. L. McKAY

We shall issue a Fall Bulletin about September first on the subject of fall planting and the kinds of nursery stock that can be safely planted in our climate. Our new 1915 Catalogue will be enlarged to 64 pages.

In revising our mailing list we shall retain the names of all purchasers,

ANNOUNCEMENT For Fall 1914 and Spring 1915

PEARL PLUM COLLECTION

1 PEARL	\$.75	1 PALATINE	\$.35
1 Bradshaw	.35	1 Lombard	.35
1 Fellemborg	.35	1 Reine Claude	.35
Total Price		\$2.65	
COLLECTION PRICE		\$1.75	

also those who since June 1913 have requested our catalogue. All other names on our present mailing list will be dropped except such as write us requesting to be retained. If you desire our future publications a postal with your proper address requesting them, will bring them promptly.

STANDARD PLUM TREES

Prices, cash with order.

	Each	Per Doz.	Per 100		Each	Per Doz.	Per 100
Extra size, 5-7 ft	35c	\$3.50	\$25.00	One-year, 3-5 ft.	25c	\$2.40	\$17.50

EUROPEAN VARIETIES

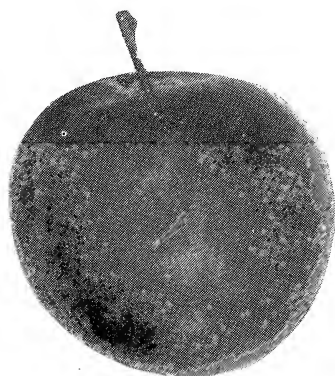
Bradshaw
Fellemborg
German Prune
Lombard
PALATINE, 50c

Monarch
Reine Claude
Shropshire Damson
Yellow Egg
PEARL, 75c

JAPAN VARIETIES

Oct. Purple
Satsuma
Wickson

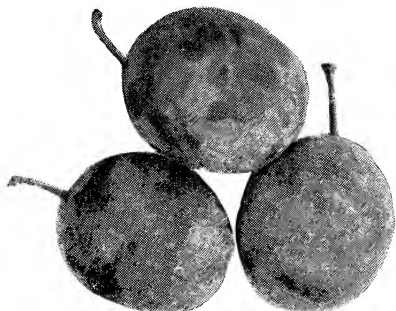
WHAT IS A PLUM?



SATSUMA

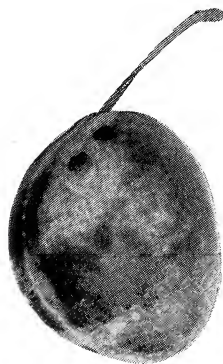
and the only blessed thing we had in the fruit line was these wild plums and the little green, wild crab that could give a green persimmon points on how to produce a pucker.

When the Suggester was a kid eight or ten years old he could have answered this question with absolute definiteness, with all the assurance of youth; he would have simply said, "Why, a **plum is good to eat**, and they grow right over the fence, wild, in Orwig's lot." That was in Des Moines, during the Civil War, when it was a little town of five or six thousand and plums literally grew "right over the fence" from almost any lot near the outskirts of the town. There was no railroad there to bring fruit, and if there had been there was no fruit to bring any way,



SHROPSHIRE DAMSON

Looking over the first hundred pages of Hedrick's *Plums of New York*, the Suggester is staggered at the complicated family record of this fruit. To give just an idea of the extent of the subject let me quote from this first chapter of Hedrick's: "Of all the stone-fruits, plums furnish the greatest diversity of kinds. **Varieties to the number of two thousand, from fifteen species**, are now or have been under cultivation. These varieties give a greater range of flavor, aroma, texture, color, form and size, the qualities which gratify the senses and make fruits desirable, than other of our orchard fruits." Besides these fifteen species, Hedrick describes nine others from which, fortunately, there seem to be no such multiplicity of varieties.



GERMAN PRUNE

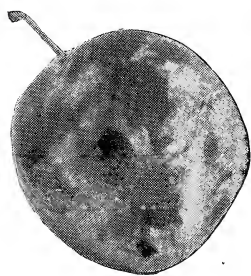
With such a field before me there is a great temptation to go on and tell a whole lot about the plum which might be instructive, but I am going to yield to the suggestion of my kid son who says, "Dad, better not say anything more—the **less you say the less you'll have to take back!**" So I am going right back to my first definition and simply say **a plum's good to eat**, and I want you to demonstrate this fact for yourself; remember all the boy of a half century ago had to form his opinion on was the wild western plum of the "Americana" or "hortulana" or some other Latin named variety, which to him were "just plain plum", while you on the other hand have your choice of varieties which in size, color, lusciousness and extent of season are incomparably superior. Take the plums for instance shown on the first page and see what a collection of delicious varieties they comprise. **Bradshaw**, an early variety of largest size, dark rich purple, and of superb quality **when fully ripened**. Right here let me say with



 FELLEMBERG PRUNE

few exceptions all plums should be fully ripened on the tree. Just let the Bradshaw hang till nice and soft and juicy and you have I think, one of our best plums. It rots easily after ripening and must then be used quickly. Among the Prunes we find the **Fellelberg** (Italian Prune, York State Prune), the leader. This is the great Californian prune of commerce. You can dry it and make your own prunes, it is the best dark plum for canning, and an ideal plum for cooking in many ways. Then, let it get dead ripe—go out in the garden some evening and pick one and eat it. Had Eve been barred from a good, ripe Fellelberg instead of an ordinary little wild apple, you could forgive her; but Adam would not have gotten a taste from her had she reached the tree first.

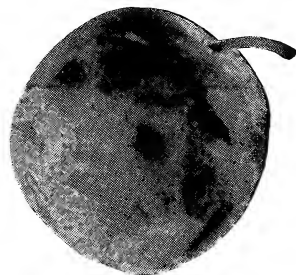
Another great plum is the **Lombard**. Hedrick says its "very poor in quality." Now Professor Hedrick is an authority on plums—don't you forget it—but the Suggester thinks he is way off in this statement. Pick it green, ship it a few hundred miles and let it ripen (?) in the uncongenial surroundings of a city market, and it is poor—it ought to be; but just let it hang till its ripe and the red has changed to a dark purple, and you will find it far above the reputation our friend Hedrick gives it. The reintroduction of a very old variety is due to Professor Hedrick, in the **Palatine**. It is from pits brought from the Palatinate, a German Province, in 1760, and has become widely known and cultivated all through the counties of Montgomery and Schoharie, this state. As tested at the Experiment Station it has shown distinctly good quality and it is as a result of their testing that we budded it two or three years ago. It is of the Reine Claude type, and is practically free from the black knot. Another variety that we obtained from the Experiment Station's grounds is the **Pearl**; this is a mere infant as compared with the Palatine, as it is one of Burbank's varieties, a seedling in 1898 from the Agen Prune, but is Reine Claude in type, indicating that Reine Claude is probably its male



OCTOBER PURPLE

longer: the majority of users call it the best canning plum of them all, and there seems no limit to the tons of Reine Claude that any of the canneries will buy. By the way, the Reine Claude is the true Green Gage.

Besides these six varieties of the Pearl Collection, we have several other European Varieties which are worth while to plant. The **German Prune** is a late variety of very long ripening period, a strong growing tree and very prolific. This is probably the most widely distributed over this country and Europe of any variety of plum. German writers say it was brought into Europe from Asia during the crusades. Of much more recent origin is the **Monarch**, introduced in Europe in 1885, and 12 years later, here. It is a large, blue plum—one of the largest, and has fairly jumped into popularity, as compared with the time it usually takes to make even the best of new varieties known. It is almost round, and on this account seems smaller than it really is; but a round plum two inches in diameter is some plum. And now we come to a class of plums that is really ancient—the Damsons,



MONARCH

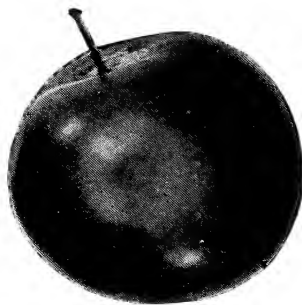


RED JUNE

of which class we offer the **Shropshire**, which is probably the best. The common Damson is named for the city of Damascus, whence it was brought into Europe at least a century before the birth of Christ. The chief provence of the Damson is to fill the preserve jars. One of the first lickings the Suggester remembers was for poaching on the damson preserves. The **Shropshire** when fully ripe or after a slight frost is a very good eating plum. A Shropshire will thrive and bear heavily under conditions that would put most of the European varieties out of business. A very interesting variety is the old **Yellow Egg**. This plum has more names than any crowned head of Europe—it has been named in Holland, France,

Germany, England, Austria, Poland and Russia at least, and was first described as long ago as 1676. You want this plum not because it's so good, but because it is such a great big lump of golden fruit. In describing in our catalogue its quality as good, perhaps we overstated it a little—probably from force of habit. It is very moderate and somewhat disappointing in quality, though how much better than were probably those wild ones the Suggester used to enjoy so long ago! Regardless of quality, however, the Yellow Egg should be in every amateur collection just for its wonderful size and beauty—and it will be just fine to give away!

There is another very interesting class of plums now quite common all over the United States, which were known here first less than a generation ago—the **Japan** varieties. Speaking of them as a class we can say their fruit is generally good size, usually brilliantly colored, reds predominating, and that they are not so high in quality as the Europeans; the trees are generally stronger growers and earlier and heavier bearers, hardier and



ABUNDANCE

will succeed in many localities where Europeans cannot be grown. We have the following varieties which are listed approximately in order of their ripening. The **Red June** ripens a week before Abundance and in general popularity seems to rank next to the Burbank and Abundance. It has the peculiar aromatic or "musky" flavor which belongs to many varieties of Japans, and which is quite noticeable in this and the Wickson. Its quality is only moderately good, but coming so early makes it very desirable in the home garden. Next in season is the **Abundance**, the first Japan variety generally introduced into this country where it has been known under a great number of different names. This plum was introduced here in 1888, and is one of the few varieties that should be picked



WICKSON

before fully ripe in order to give it its best quality. Following this comes **Burbank** still about a week later, and we believe this is the most valuable of any of the Japan varieties thus far grown here. It is certainly the best known and for some markets is an extremely profitable plum to grow. This variety bears in a year or two: We have picked over a peck from trees only three years planted. Its tendency is to overbear, the fruit forming in perfect ropes along the branches, like a currant or gooseberry. The fruit if thinned is very large, a brilliant red on a golden ground giving it a very handsome, mottled appearance. And its quality is high compared with the Japan standard. If you were planting just one Japan plum tree, this is the one you want. The **Satsuma** is another very good quality Japan variety, brilliant red with very dark red flesh, and is generally regarded as a really superior cooking plum. It is almost free from the peculiar Japan muskiness, having a pleasant almond-like flavor. This cut of the **Wickson** while doubtless somewhat exaggerated, is very little overdrawn in size as compared with the largest specimens I have seen. Allowing for the fact that a picture the exact size of a fruit always looks smaller than the fruit itself, it is a reasonably true representation. Hedrick says of it "**the largest of the Oriental plums, if not the largest of all plums.**" In color and form it is about the most beautiful of all varieties. In the east it is only a moderate producer, but west and south it bears heavily. It blooms very early and the May frosts here, if they come a little late, are apt to kill the blooms. Quite aromatic in flavor, only moderately good, but a variety that the amateur grower should have. The latest of these kinds is the **October Purple**, a large dark red plum, changing when ripe to purple. It is very juicy and fairly good both for eating fresh and for cooking. It closes the season for the Japans, these six varieties covering the season almost continuously from very earliest to very latest. With exception of Burbank and possibly Red June the Suggester does not consider them of much value except for a local home market, but to the plum grower who wishes his garden to be representative of the best there is in the different kinds of fruit, any or all of these varieties are valuable.

The plum is generally neglected in the home garden, and is really worthy of much more attention than it receives. It has fewer insect and fungus troubles than either the apple, pear or peach, and if given just a little attention will repay you with a most interesting assortment of delicious and beautiful fruit.

Our "**Mikado**" Collection gives you these six Japan Varieties for only \$1.50. These and the "**Pearl**" Collection will give you a wonderfully fine Plum Garden for little money.

STANDARD APPLE TREES

PRICES, except as noted, cash with order

2 and 3 year trees	Each	Per Doz.	Per 100	One year trees	Each	Per Doz.	Per 100
Extra size, 5-7 ft	35c	\$3.25	\$22.50	About 2½ to 4 ft.	25c	\$2.40	\$17.50

For full list with description of varieties see General Catalogue

DELICIOUS—We offer a few trees of this variety extra size at 50c per tree. We have it in this size only. This variety is not to be included in the **Empire Apple Collection** below.



A SAMPLE OF OUR EXTRA SIZE APPLE TREES

In apples the Suggester finds it very difficult to cover the field in any brief view of the subject; as late in the season as this will be when it reaches our customers, what is needed is a brief statement as to the different varieties that can probably still be obtained, their season, color and general idea of their quality. The following list comprises the varieties which we have still in stock in sufficient quantities to invite sales freely, and it gives a sufficiently wide assortment for any one to select a dozen or more trees from with reasonable assurance of being entirely suited, for a small family orchard.

Following our custom of making up collections, we are going to copy our Empire Peach Collection which gives 15 trees, our selection, for the price of a dozen, except in the **Empire Apple Collection** we will give fifteen trees, **your selection, for \$3.25, the price of a dozen**, for the remainder of this spring. You may make selection of varieties out of those listed here which will be followed as long as they last, but when a variety is sold out we will substitute another good kind, correctly labelled.

The seasons here assigned to the following varieties are taken from Beaches' *Apples of New York*, and are for the different kinds in good common storage, at Geneva.

VARIETY	COLOR	QUALITY	SEASON
Baldwin	Red	Good	Dec.—March, Apr.
Constantine	Red	Moderate	Sept.—Nov.
Excelsior	Red	Good	September
Fall Pippin	Golden	High	Sept.—Jan.
French Pippin (50c)	Golden	High	Jan.—May, June
Golden Russet	Golden	Good	Dec.—Apr. or later
Gravenstein	Red	High	Sept.—Nov.
Hendrick Sweet	Red	High	Nov.—Apr.
Hubbardston	Red	Good	Oct.—Jan.
King	Red	Best	Oct.—Jan.

VARIETY	COLOR	QUALITY	SEASON
McIntosh	Red	Best	Nov.-Jan.
Northern Spy	Red	Best	Nov.-Mch.-Apr.
Opalescent, (50c)	Very Dark	Good	Nov.-Mch.
Pewaukee	Red	Moderate	Nov.-Apr.
Pound Sweet	Yellow	Good	Oct.-Jan.
R. I. Greening	Green	High	Oct.-Mch.-Apr.
Rox. Russet	Russet	Good	Jan.-May
Scarlet Beauty, (50c)	Very Dark	High	Nov.-Jan.
Stark	Red	Good	Jan.-June
Stayman	Red	High	Dec.-May
Stearns, (50c)	Red	Good	Nov.-Feb.
Tolman	Yellow	Moderate	Nov.-Jan.
Twenty Ounce	Red	Good	Sept.-Jan.
Wagener	Red	High	Oct.-March
Wolf River	Red	Moderate	Sept.-Dec.
Yellow Bellflower	Golden	Moderate	Dec.-Apr.
Yellow Transparent	Golden	Good	July, Aug.

We list four varieties at 50c each; while they last we will include them with the collection. We print in Black faced type those varieties that we would consider on the whole a most excellent selection for the home garden, taking everything into consideration.

It may seem strange that such a rather low quality variety as Pewaukee should be recommended for the home garden. This tree is a wonderfully strong grower, it bears early and heavy crops, and is such a great keeper and excellent cooking variety and in the seasons when the finer apples are shy this may come in to help out. The same is true of Stark—a variety that should be in every collection. **It is better to have even a poor apple than none at all!**

It is not necessary in making your selection to confine yourself to one tree of a kind—mix them up to suit yourself and we will follow your selection as closely as possible.

STANDARD PEACH TREES

For list and description of varieties see General Catalogue.

For New Collections of Dwarf and Standard Peaches, see the February Peach Bulletin, and page 15 of the March Bulletin.

PRICES OF PEACH TREES, except as noted, cash with order

	Each	Per Doz.	Per 100
Extra size, about 4–6 ft	20c	\$2.00	\$12.00
Regular size, about 3–4 ft	15c	1.50	9.00
Medium size, about 2–3 ft. Not less than 50 trees on an order. .			6.00

SPECIAL BUNDLE OFFER

Our peach trees of the Regular grade are put up in bundles of 20 trees each, and in the Medium grade, of 25 trees each. In our varieties we have the trees in the following list which we offer in **unbroken bundles** and of course only **one variety in a bundle at \$1.50 per bundle for the Regular size, and \$1.00 per bundle for the Medium size.**

If out of a variety ordered we will put in some other variety correctly labelled **unless you direct otherwise**, in which case we will return your money.

We offer only the numbers and varieties listed below.

These are going fast and when out we shall stop sales at these prices and sell only at the prices listed above.

	Regular size \$1.50 per bun- dle of 20 trees	Medium size \$1.00 per bun- dle of 25 trees		Regular size \$1.50 per bun- dle of 20 trees	Medium size \$1.00 per bun- dle of 25 trees
Belle of Georgia	none	250	Hiley	none	175
Carman	500	500	Mt. Rose	none	75
Chair's Choice	60	200	Niagara	none	125
Champion	500	600	Old Mixon Free	none	150
Crawford Early	none	500	Salway	300	500
Crawford Late	none	500	Smock	100	150
Crosby	none	150	Stump	160	150
Elberta	1500	3000	Steven's Rarripe	140	175
Fitzgerald	100	150	Waddell	none	75
Foster	40	100	Willett	100	250
Greensboro	none	500	Yellow St. John	none	50
Hill's Chili	100	500			



View from the hill at west end of The Van Dusen farm with Montmorency and Kieffer orchards in the foreground, and showing the

STANDARD PEAR TREES

For full list with description of varieties, see General Catalogue

PRICES, except as noted, cash with order

2 and 3 year trees	Each	Per doz.	Per 100	One year trees	Each	Per doz.	Per 100
Extra size, 5-7 ft	35c	\$3.50	\$25.00	About 2 1/2-4 ft	25c	\$2.40	\$17.50

Anjou
Bartlett
Clapp

Duchess
Flemish
Kieffer

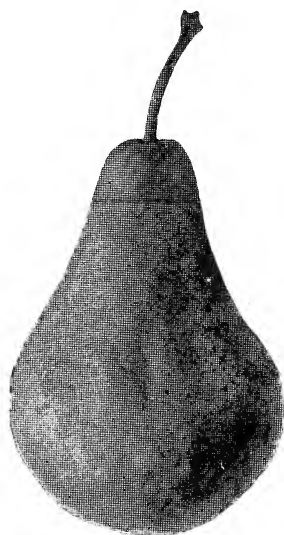
Lawrence
Seckel
Sheldon

Vt. Beauty
Worden-Seckel

COMICE, 75c each, \$7.50 per doz., \$60.00 per 100

BOSC, 1 year, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per doz., \$50.00 per 100

BOSC, 2 year, \$1.25 each, \$12.50 per doz.



In considering quality there is no absolute standard; Seckel is generally considered the highest quality of any pear—at any rate, it is so different from any other variety and so high in quality that it may be considered in a class by itself. Aside from this variety the Suggester would place Sheldon and Comice at the head, without being able to decide which should take first place and which second; most of us would place first whichever happened to be the last one tasted. These two pears come nearly together in season. Then there are some three pears about which one might well hesitate as to order of excellence, Bosc, Flemish and Clapp; fortunately, however, the Clapp is very early, the Flemish mid-season and the Bosc late so why not enjoy them all and at all times have as good as the season affords. If obliged to place these in order of excellence, it would be Bosc, Flemish, Clapp.

Now for a canning and cooking variety—by all means take the much despised Kieffer, for it's a wonder when it comes to the table through the kitchen. The Bartlett is positively flat in comparison with it, as a cooking pear.

THE COMICE COLLECTION, EXTRA SIZE

1 BOSC, \$1.00	1 Kieffer, \$35
1 COMICE, \$.75	1 Seckel, \$35
1 Flemish, \$.35	1 Sheldon, \$.35

Total List Price, \$3.15

COLLECTION PRICE, only \$2.00

For an all round choice collection we recommend the Comice Collection which was offered in our latest catalogue, the edition of which is exhausted. It is made up as here given.



the State Experiment Station buildings in the distance at the left, with Seneca Lake and the City of Geneva toward the right.

STANDARD CHERRY TREES

Prices except as noted, cash with order

	Each	Per Doz.	Per 100
Extra size, 5-7 ft	35c	\$3.50	\$25.00
1-yr., Sweets, 4-5 ft	25c	2.40	17.50
1-yr., Sours, 2-4 ft	25c	2.40	17.50

For full descriptions of varieties see General Catalogue

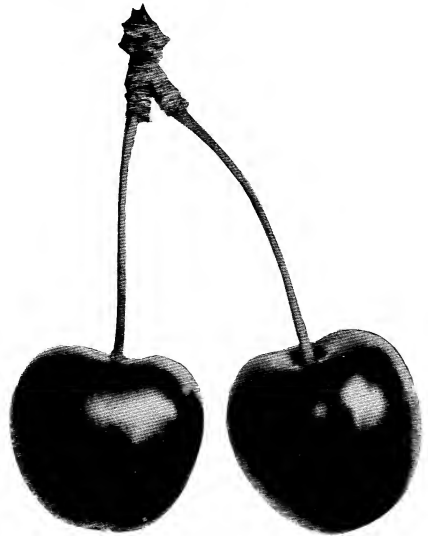
SWEETS

Black Tartarian	Gov. Wood	Napoleon
Rockport	Windsor (Black)	Yellow Spanish

SOURS

ABESSE, 75c	MARGUERITE, 50c
Early Richmond	May Duke
English Morello	Montmorency

Cherries are so easy to make grow and bear—in fact you can't stop them from bearing, some kinds the very year they are planted—that it makes one of the most satisfactory fruits there is for general purposes; they are especially appreciated by the birds, and if you don't want them yourself plant a tree or two for the feathered friends. They will not be particular as to the variety, and there is not one of those listed that you will not like yourself. For the **one best cherry** for home use if you were planting but one tree, the Montmorency would be the one. But to extend the two or three weeks of Montmorency fully a week at the beginning of the season and two weeks at the end, add Early Richmond and English Morello. Then for sweets the Black Tartarian and Napoleon are hard to beat. Abbesse is I think as high in quality if not the very best of all

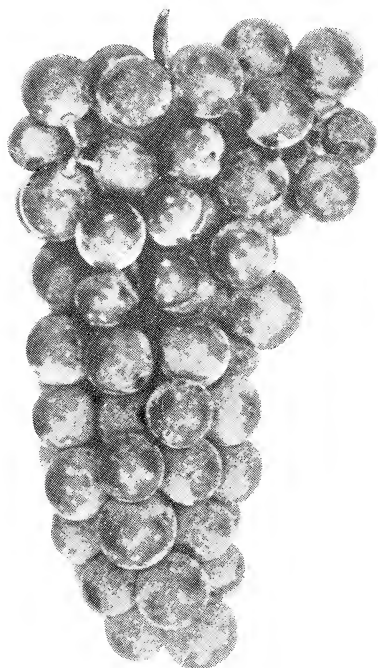


WINDSOR

"THE MARGUERITE COLLECTION"

1 "MARGUERITE"	\$.50
1 "ABESSE"75
1 English Morello35
1 Early Richmond35
1 Yellow Spanish35
1 Black Tartarian35
<hr/>	
Total List Price	\$2.65
COLLECTION PRICE	\$1.75

for eating out of hand, and the Marguerite will materially add to the delights of your fruit garden at the close of the season. The "Marguerite" Collection as here given gives you as choice a collection as you could make for the number of trees and the money.



WORDEN

GRAPE VINES

BLACK

Campbell's Early, 30c
Concord, 15c
Moore Early, 15c
Worden, 15c

RED

Agawam, 15c
Brighton, 20c
Catawba, 15c
Delaware, 20c

GREEN OR WHITE

Empire State, 20c
Diamond, 20c
Niagara, 15c
Winchell, 30c

For the man who does not know anything about growing grapes and who wants two varieties which will grow and yield almost anywhere and under almost any conditions, the Suggester advises the **Niagara** and **Concord**. For two very early and high quality varieties the **Campbell** and **Winchell** are the best. As the quality of a variety depends largely on the individual taste there is of course room for a difference of opinion, but generally the **Delaware** is conceded the highest in quality of any of our American grapes. The **Worden** is a superb black variety—it is really an early Concord, but better than the Concord.

We have three collections—the **Lakeside Collection**, consisting of one each of the above 12 varieties for \$1.50; the **Arbor Collection** consisting of six varieties—Campbell, Catawba, Delaware, Niagara, Moore's Early and Winchell, for \$1.00; and the **Dessert Collection** consisting of Campbell, Delaware and Winchell, for 50c.

If you want more than just two or three varieties the Suggester is pretty sure that you will hit it to take the **Lakeside Collection**. It will give you a wide range of varieties at a mere nominal cost, and in about three years you will know just the varieties best adapted to your location and climate.

GREGG



RASPBERRIES

We offer this year for the first time two new varieties: **JUNE**, introduced by the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva. As its name implies it is a June ripening variety, the earliest of 70 varieties growing on the Experiment Station grounds. We describe this berry in our January Bulletin giving the entire report of the Station concerning it. Briefly they say, it is bright red, averages larger than Cuthbert, and is of **high quality** and adds "**we expect to see this variety become one of the most profitable red raspberries grown.**" Certainly no gushing testimonial of the usual vivid kind can begin to have the weight of these words in the official report on the variety in the Station Bulletin No. 364, July, 1913. **Prices 25c each, 50c for 3, 75c for 6, \$1.25 for 12, \$2.50 for 25, \$4.00 for 50, and \$7.50 per 100. Postpaid.**

ST. REGIS EVERBEARING. It bears continuously from Early July till October, the later berries coming on the canes that grow early the same season. I have never fruited this myself, and only recommend it after being very well assured that it is worth while to plant at least in the home garden. It is a handsome red berry of good size, a good bearer and good in quality. **Prices, 10c for 1, 25c for 3, 40c for 6, 75c for 12, \$1.25 for 25, \$2.00 for 50, and \$3.50 per 100. Postpaid.**

Another attractive offer of Raspberries is the "Garden" Collection, consisting of 30 plants for \$1.00, 6 each of Columbian, Cuthbert, Gregg, Herbert and Marlboro. (Without Premium.)

BLACKBERRIES

For a small blackberry patch, the Suggester is not a bit in doubt as to what is best; we give you **30 plants for One Dollar** in our **Blackbird Collection**, consisting of six plants each of Agawam, Ancient Brittain, Snyder, Taylor and a new variety, the Blowers. Buying them in this way you save 45c from list price. This collection of 30 plants is without premium.

CURRANTS

Perfection, (20c)—The newest variety introduced and without question one of the very best; red, fine quality, an enormous bearer.

Wilder, (10c)—This is the great commercial variety. As heavy a bearer as perfection. It is peculiar in one respect, it carries its crop longer than any other variety we have ever grown. If you are not ready to pick it now, you can leave it a week or two longer.

Fay, (10c)—This is the earliest and does not hang long on the bush after it is ripe. The Suggester thinks this is the highest in quality of all the red varieties he has ever grown, and it is certainly the largest with the exception of an occasional strain of cherry.

Cherry, (10c)—One of the best old varieties. It is difficult to get today a good, pure strain of Cherry currant.

White Imperial, (10c)—Much milder in flavor than the red varieties, the Fay being nearest in sweetness. Valueless commercially, but a few bushes for home use are necessary if you have the best.

McKAY'S GIANT ASPARAGUS

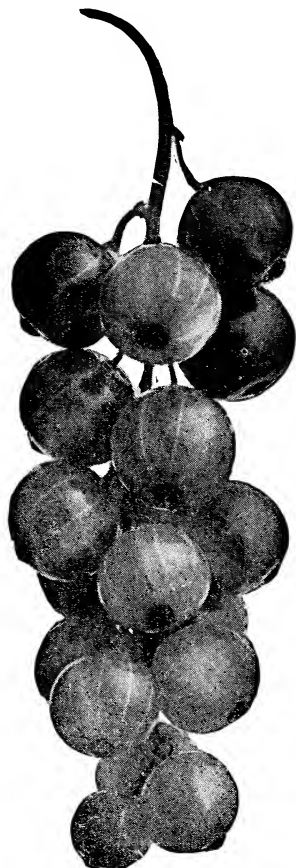
White Grape, (10c)—A fine white variety, very similar to White Imperial in size, appearance and quality.

ASPARAGUS

The best variety is a strain of **Giant Argentieul** which the Suggester obtained from a prominent New Jersey grower, and which with his permission we have been selling under the name of **McKay's Giant Asparagus**. It is a green variety, probably no better than either Conovers or Palmetto so far as quality goes, but a distinctly heavier cropper. **Prices 50c for 25, 75c for 50, \$1.25 for 100 and \$10.00 per 1000.**

RHUBARB

McKay's Mammoth, a very rapid grower, crisp and tender, 25c each, \$2.50 per doz., \$15.00 per 100.



PERFECTION



McKAY'S MAMMOTH RHUBARB

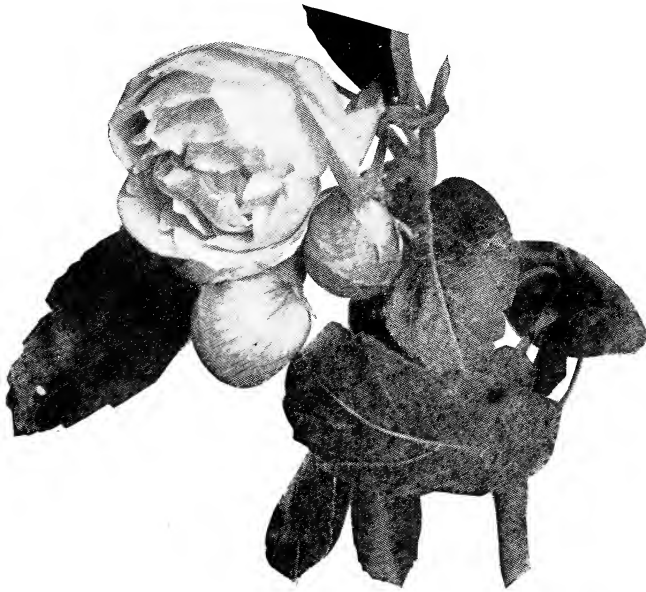
ORNAMENTAL DEPARTMENT

In this department of the nurseryman's activities, it is fortunate that we are only taking the place of a "Suggester" as otherwise it would be difficult to cover a subject in a half dozen pages that would require a whole library to treat in detail.

We do not attempt to grow a wide range of varieties; the fact is that out of hundreds of varieties of different trees and shrubs, our choice almost invariably settles down to some eight or ten kinds of trees as best suited to our needs, and perhaps fifteen or twenty different classes of shrubs. It is only these "best sellers" that it is worth while for us to try to furnish, or for you to buy.

SHADE AND ORNAMENTAL TREES

Under this class I mention only three varieties:



BECHTEL'S DOUBLE FLOWERING CRAB

Bechtel's Double Flowering Crab, (50c)—One of the choicest little dwarf flowering trees ever grown. As a rule these little trees will bloom the first year they are planted if left untrimmed. They bloom in the nursery row **always** at two years, the age at which we dig them. The bloom is a pure pink apple blossom except that it is very much larger, and is loosely double, having I should judge from 15 to 25 petals instead of five. The tree is strictly a dwarf in its habit of growth and is a gem either planted by itself on the lawn or in a hedgerow. It is a very straight, symmetrical grower and a most delightful ornament even during the season of no bloom. It is really a crab tree and perfectly hardy. Our trees are about two to three feet in height.

Carolina Poplar, (25c)—This is probably the fastest growing shade tree of them all, and for this reason is cheaper than any of the others. As showing its wonderful popularity, at this date we have sold **more than twice as many Carolina Poplar as all other ornamental trees put together**. And this is not this spring only—it has stood that way right along for the past fifteen years or more. Planted where it has room to develop in four or five years it will make a head large enough to shade a dozen people sitting under it, and strong enough to swing a hammock for two. It is a very upright grower with foliage a light green and very glossy. It takes a perfectly symmetrical shape with practically no trimming. If you want a thick planting for a screen or wind break they are cheap enough so you can plant them in masses two to three feet apart and get protection not only in summer but also in winter. No tree we grow is so easy to transplant successfully—you simply can't kill them unless you try. For large orders for massing or hedge rows, special hundred prices will be made according to the number and size desired. We have nothing this year over about ten feet in height, and for massing effects you will be just as well suited with a tree 5-7 feet as 8-10. They are cheaper than evergreens, easier to make live and much faster to grow.

Catalpa Speciosa, (50c)—This is both a shade and a flowering tree, its blooms in July resembling a little the Iris in its general effect, being a white, labiate flower, with purple centers, I should judge two inches or more in diameter, fragrant. This is also a very fast grower, makes

caliper faster than the Poplar and is much more spreading in its habit. It is a beautiful tree for a single specimen or two in any lawn. Our trees this year are about 6 ft. or over in height.

To those wishing one of each of these trees we will add them to your order for **one dollar for the three.**

HARDY SHRUBS

It has never been my opportunity to offer a list of shrubs which are as large and strong as most of these. I have only a comparatively few left and when these are gone I shall have to buy smaller sizes with which to fill orders, as very few are to be had in as large sizes as those offered, taken as a whole. We list the number we can do only in these extra size plants.

25 Barberry Purple, 3-4 ft., (25c), one of the best purple foliaged shrubs, holds its color well during the season.

200 Barberry Japanese, (*Thunbergii*), 1½-2 ft., very bushy, (25c). This is the one that I would select as being the best and handsomest for every purpose for which a shrub can be used, of any variety grown. It is easily grown, hence, not expensive; it is a most beautiful shrub for a single specimen plant by itself, when it should be very little trimmed if any; grown in masses, untrimmed along building foundations or in corners or borders of the lawn it is unsurpassed by any, and as a hedge it can be trimmed to any size or shape desired. It is liberally furnished with sharp spines—not thorns—and when grown to good height is a troublesome hedge to get through. Its foliage is a strong, glossy green, in autumn changing to every possible combination of red, green and yellow that one can imagine, and holds this beautiful condition for several weeks. It has an inconspicuous white flower in May and from fall clear through the winter is loaded with long, bright red berries. At this date, the end of March, we can still see in Geneva many large bushes of this variety so loaded with these berries as to give almost the effect of being well covered with small, brilliant red blossoms.

5 Crimson Flowering Currant, 3-4 ft., 25c.

25 Yellow Flowering Currant, 4-5 ft., 25c.

These are the old fashioned shrub with abundant bloom in June of a most delicious, spicy fragrance.

65 Deutzia Candida, 4-5 ft., 25c. Pure white, very profuse bloomer.

75 Deutzia Crenata, 4-5 ft., 25c. White blooms with just a delicate rose tinting.

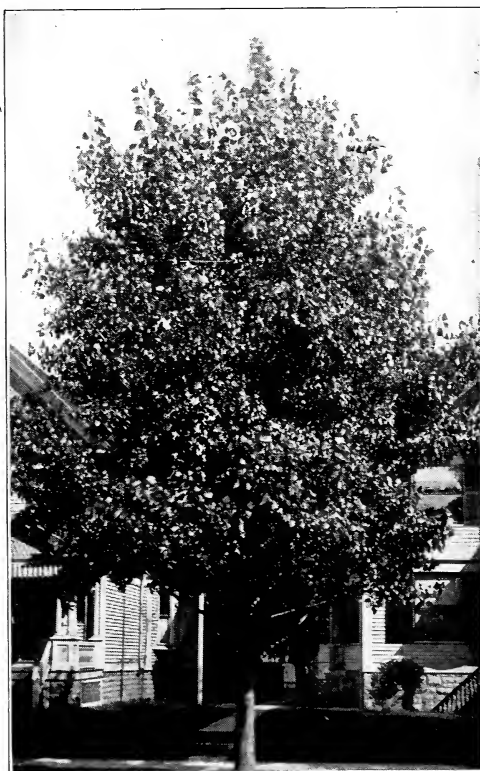
20 Deutzia Gracilis, 1½-2 ft., 25c. A dwarf variety with pure white flowers; very suitable, for low borders or where masses of low growing shrubs are desired.

20 Purple Fringe, 5-6 ft., 35c. A strong growing shrub completely covered in blooming time with a most peculiar brown, smoky-like blossom giving it its well known name of "Smoke Tree." This is a very attractive shrub for a single specimen; is not adapted to massing.

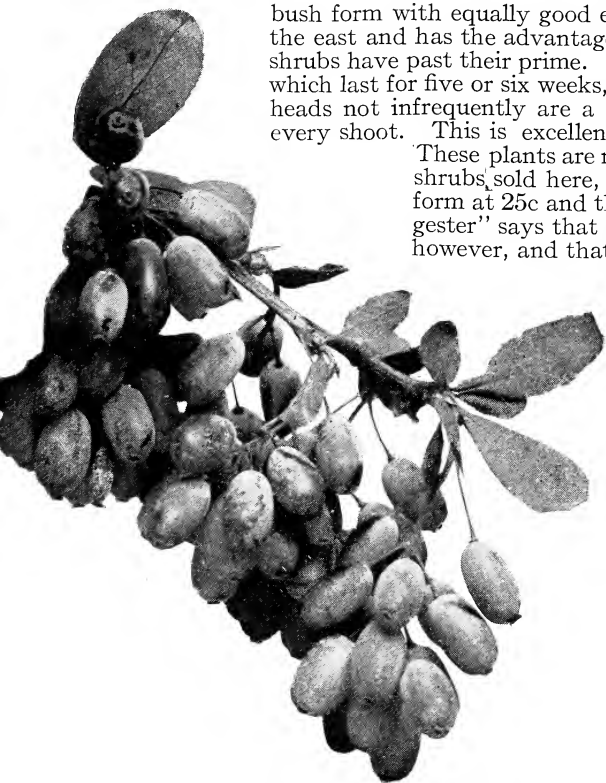
15 Honeysuckle, White Tartarian, 4-5 ft., 25c. A strong growing shrub used a great deal for massing where large growth is desired. Has red honeysuckle like blossoms.

10 Honeysuckle, White Tartarian, 4-5 ft., 25c. Same as last except in color.

Hydrangea Paniculata. This is one of the great shrubs and is trained both in tree and in



CAROLINA POPLAR. About 6 or 7 years old



RED BERRIES OF JAPAN BARBERRY

7 Madam La Moine, 2-3 ft., 50c.

32 President Grevey, 3-4 ft., \$1.00. Light blue. This is a most unusual color for a Lilac and the President Grevey ranks with the Ludwig Spæthe as being a variety of wonderful beauty. Do not class these Lilac trees with the ordinary little bushes which are usually sold. These are in a class by themselves and the assortment is one that cannot fail to please the lover of this beautiful flowering plant.

While they last we will sell the above for 3 for \$2.00 your choice of variety, unless some kind is sold out, when we will put in the nearest possible to it.

Pæonias in assorted colors, pink, red and white, 25c each.

80 Spirea Anthony Waterer, 2-3 ft., 25c. A dwarf variety of bright red color. The plants we usually use are only about a foot high. These are extra big for the kind.

65 Spirea Collosa Rosea, 4-5 ft., 25c. Red. Very similar to the last except a stronger grower.

15 Spirea Aurea, 4-5 ft., 25c. Golden foliage, a very strong grower and handsome variety. The blossom is inconspicuous.

25 Syringa Golden, 1½-2 ft., 35c. The best of the golden foliage plants, but dwarf in habit and a very slow grower, hence the advantage of getting so large a plant for this variety as ours.

40 Weigela Candida, 4-5 ft., 35c. Pure white, with blossoms much resembling in shape the wild Azalea.

35 Weigela Variegated, 3-4 ft., 35c. Grown chiefly for its foliage, which is a deep green, the leaves edged with golden yellow.

bush form with equally good effect. It is hardy in our extreme climates in the east and has the advantage of being a very late bloomer after most of the shrubs have past their prime. It has enormous heads of creamy white flowers which last for five or six weeks, turning a decided pink toward the last. These heads not infrequently are a foot in length, and come at the terminal of every shoot. This is excellent for massing or for single specimen plants.

These plants are not as large in proportion as most of the other shrubs sold here, and we have more of them; we list the bush form at 25c and the tree form, 2-3 feet high at 50c. The "Suggester" says that our tree form are not up to our usual height however, and that for the remainder of the season we will sell one bush and one tree form for 50c. Without doubt you will get some bloom from these this summer as, like the Baby Rambler, they simply can't help blooming.

Lilacs—We have the following list of lilacs, all tree form, and all fine varieties. These are the finest and largest lilacs we have ever had, and most of them will bloom this year after planting if not trimmed too closely.

20 Josekea, 2½-3¼ ft., 50c. Very light purple.

5 Persian Purple, 5-6 ft., \$1.00. Fine reddish purple.

4 Persian Purple, 4-5 ft., 75c.

60 Persian White, 2-3 ft., 50c. Pure white.

10 Charles X, 3-4 ft., 75c. One of the best varieties of reddish purple.

8 Ludwig Spæthe, 3-4 ft., \$1.00. Extremely deep purple and a superb variety.

9 Marie La Graye, 3-4 ft., 75c. Pure white, single. One of the best whites.

8 Madam Abel Chateney, 2½-3½ ft., 75c. Pure white, double.

10 Madam La Moine, 3-4 ft., 75c. Pure white, double.

CLIMBING VINES

For a climber on stone or brick the **Ampelopsis Veitchii** or "Boston Ivy," (25c), is the only one to consider. Its foliage in the fall approaches that of the Japanese Barberry in beauty of coloring. For the Large Flowered Clematis the **Jackmanii** (50c), purple, and **Henryii**, (50c), white, are the best varieties; but in the clematis don't forget that most beautiful variety the **Paniculata** (25c), which will cover any porch in very few years and has a perfect cloud of small white blooms which last three to four weeks. If you want to cover quickly anything unsightly, plant a few paniculata over it and like the Gold Dust Twins they will do the work for you. The **Hall's Japan Honeysuckle**, (25c), is always

good, and if you are willing to take the time to get the **handsomest climber of them all**, the **Purple and White Wistarias**, (50c), are the finest climbers that grow.

ROSES

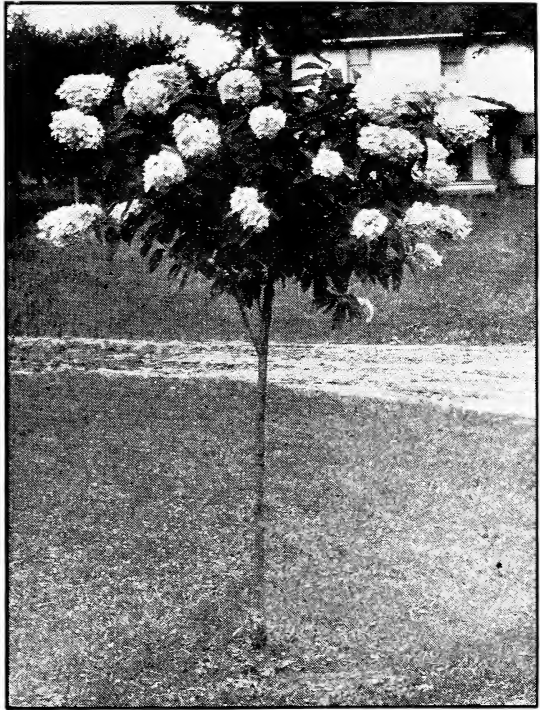
These are plants which some people say are related to apples and pears while others deny this. You and the Suggester will not quarrel on this ground because we have more important business—deciding what roses we are to set out this spring. Not that we really need to plant anything more—the yard is getting crowded as it is—but then, one must plant something even if it necessary to dig up that Golden Glow we planted three years ago, in order to make room for this year's planting. And roses are so easy to care for that they are almost sure to do well. When you plant the bush in the first place take your knife or shears and cut the bush back to four inches from the ground. This sounds ruthless, but it is necessary. Then, every year in the middle of March cut back the varieties we list as hybrid perpetuals, hybrid teas, etc., to about four to eight inches from the ground. This will force the growth of new wood which will have blossoms in June and following. The varieties we list as ramblers, and climbers bloom from last year's wood and should not be cut at all unless you wish to keep them within definite bounds or to stimulate wood growth.

The **Baby Rambler**, (25c), is a mighty satisfactory plant, small, hardy and very prolific of blooms. When we dug our roses the middle of November last fall, the "**Babies**" were all in bloom although severe frosts had killed all the buds on more tender plants some time before. This little rose, really a dwarf rose, blooms incessantly for nearly six months every year; and if potted in the fall and brought indoors it will add six more months to its repertory.

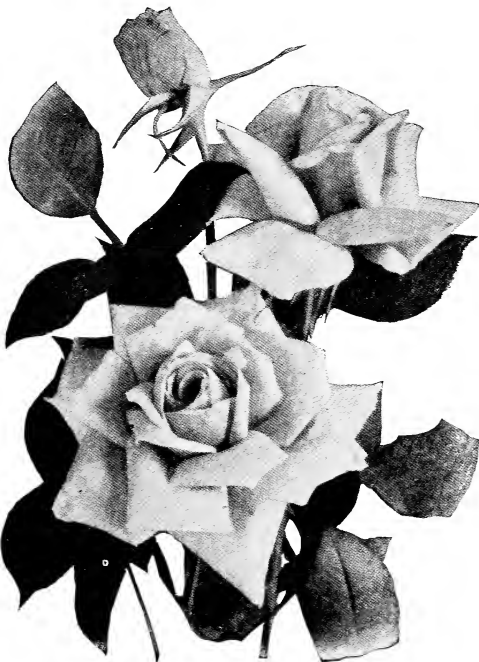
The **Blue Rambler**, (50c), can hardly be compared with the Baby. It is blue, sure enough, and is something of a curiosity to one who has hitherto seen blue roses confined to the Brussels carpet in the front parlor. We offer a **Red, White and Blue Collection** of roses a little farther on for the benefit of true patriots with the spring fever for planting something. The **Crimson Rambler**, (25c), is a rank grower and bears once only—but that once is compensation enough. A large specimen will produce during the latter part of June thousands of small blossoms of the deepest crimson—really a wonderful display. This bush we offer with one Blue Rambler and a good white rose of our own selection, to comprise the **Red, White and Blue Collection** of roses for 75c.

The **Dorothy Perkins**, (20c), makes a large plant like the preceding, but the blossoms are delicate shell pink rosettes covering the whole bush in profusion. This is not an expensive variety, being easy to grow, but is nearly as satisfactory (not quite, of course), as if you paid ten dollars for it.

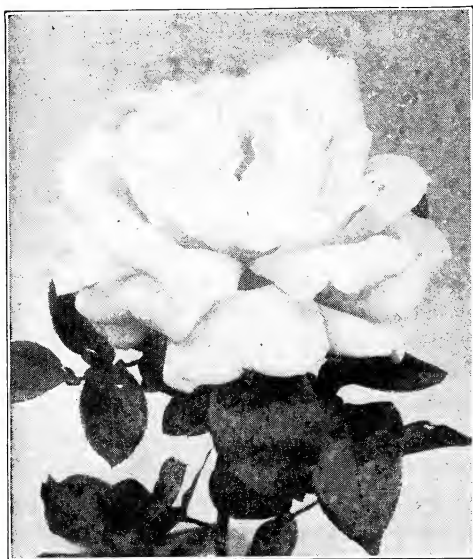
The **White Rambler**, (20c), and the **Yellow Rambler**, (20c), are good, although not so popular as those mentioned before.



HYDRANGEA TREE



KAISERIN AUGUSTA VICTORIA

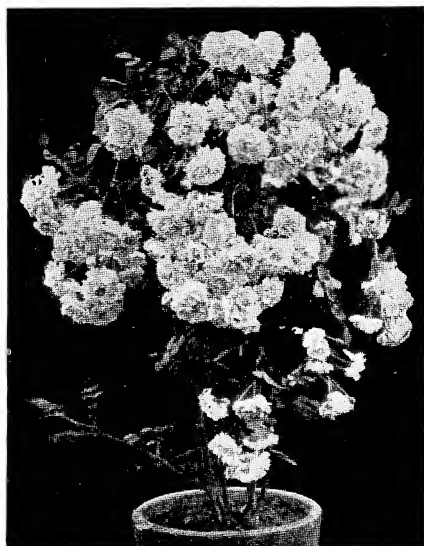


FRAU KARL DRUSCHKI

if the Suggester had to select **one best rose**, it would be this one. **Clothilde Soupert**, (30c), is one of the little Polyantha roses, white with rose center, very free bloomer. A most charming little rose. Of course no rose bed would be complete without that old standby, the **General Jacqueminot**, (25c), blooms more or less through the season but only occasionally after June. The **Hermosa**, (35c), is a pink rose, not to be compared in beauty with the four mentioned later, but when you get a rose that will bloom almost continually from June till it actually freezes, it can be forgiven for not having all the other qualities one could wish. A wonderful new rose the **Gruss an Teplitz**, (35c), ranks with the "Baby" and **Hermosa** as a phenomenal bloomer. Its season is full five months, of almost continual bloom. Its chief value is as a bedding rose, as the stems are very soft and weak and it does not hold up long after picking. Its color is a deep red but of a peculiar shade of its own which we have never seen in any other rose. Another comparatively new Hybrid Tea of great beauty is the **Kaisarin Augusta Victoria**, (50c), a very strong growing variety with beautiful, long, pointed buds; it is a creamy white shading to a dusky straw color. Its great vigor is one of its great points of value. Two white roses occur to us as being valuable additions to any collection—**Madam Plantier**, (25c), and **Madam George Bruant**, (25c). The former blooms only in June and **from the old wood**, so don't trim it much; it has a wealth of pure white, clustered blooms that fairly cover the bush. It should have room to be allowed to grow into a big bush. The Bruant is a Rugosa, a very strong plant, the foliage being practically immune to the various army of insects that seem to "admire" the rose as much as we humans. The blossom is quite single but of a most delicate character both in the bud and in the flower. A fine selection of Pink Roses can be made from **Madam Gabriel Luizet**, (35c), **Mrs. John Laing**, (35c), **Paul Neyron**, (25c), and **Magna Charta**, (25c). They are all fine, but possibly our choice of the varieties would be about in the order named. The Laing is the weakest grower of them all, the others being rather above the average. For Yellow roses, the **Persian Yellow**, (35c), and **Soliel d'Or**, (50c), are perhaps as safe as any. The former is like the Plantier, blooms but once and from the old wood, but makes a very large, handsome bush and is the first rose that you will have in bloom. The latter with us has been a weak grower and shy bloomer, but the few blooms we have had have paid us for the trouble. They are a wonderful bronze yellow color.

The climbing roses, **Baltimore Belle**, (20c), and **Queen of the Prairie**, (20c), are especially desirable for training on porches and for planting so as to pick the flowers from your second story window. The first is white with a blush center, the second is a bright pink. These are two of the choicest climbing roses.

Of the Hybrid Perpetuals and Hybrid Teas the Suggester will mention only a few, but they will be as good as there are and will be the ones that will give you what you buy the plants for—**roses**. The **Coquette des Alps**, (25c), is a white rose which approaches Baby Rambler for late and free blooming. This is one of the kinds that we always find some bloom on when we dig the plants in November. Early in the season they are white with a faint blush center. The later blooms, however, take on a very decided blush or flesh color. Curious, isn't it? **Frau Karl Druschki**, (50c), is a mighty fine rose, so beautiful in bud that we have to forgive it for being less free a bloomer than some others; still it is by no means a shy bloomer. There is no use trying to describe a rose anyway, but you ought to see a bud of Frau Karl. Among all roses,



BABY RAMBLER